• Representation from M/s Greenpeace regarding the import of GM food namely "Dorito's Cool Ranch Corn chips" manufactured by Frito Lays Inc. for Pepsico USA without the approval of the Genetic Engineering Approval Committee (GEAC) notified under 'Rules 1989' of EPA, 1986.

• Representation from M/s K K Enterprise whose consignment consisting of Dorito Chips of three flavors namely 'NACHO', 'TACO' and 'BBQ' has been detained at Nhava Sheva Port, Navi Mumbai

(c) and (d) The import of GM food requires the prior approval of the GEAC under Rules, 1989 of EPA, 1986 and a declaration at the port of entry. In case of a wrong declaration or import without the approval of the GEAC both, the regulations provide for taking punitive action against the importers. The Food Safety and Standards Authority is in the process of framing rules and guidelines for import of GM food. Once the FSSA is operational, the import of GM processed will be exempted from the provisions of Rule 11, of Rules, 1989 of EPA, 1986.

Jaggery production

754. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to regulate jaggery production; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Foodgrains at cheaper rates to BPL families

755. SHRI A. ELAVARASAN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has consulted the State Governments for identification of exact BPL beneficiaries, to implement its promise of 25 kg. rice/wheat at Rs. 3 per kg. for BPL families;

(b) whether it is a fact that the number of BPL families accounted by the State Governments are quiet higher than the number estimated by the Central Government; and

(c) if so, the action taken by Government to figure the exact number of proposed BPL beneficiaries under this scheme, along with the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Government proposes to enact the